Constitution of Coordinating Task Force for Common Effluent Treatment Plants

2303. SHRI VEDPRAKASH P. GOYAL: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FOREST be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have constituted a task force for coordinating issues relating to setting-up of common effluent treatment plants and remove impediments causing delay in commissioning of projects;

(b) the details of the work done by task force so far and the number of effluent treatment plants set-up in each State of the country;

(c) whether this scheme is applicable only to the leather industry;

(d) if not, which other industries are covered;

(e) whether any study has been made to gather the experience of common effluent treatment plants already existing in industrial States like Maharashtra and Gujarat; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. The Government have constituted a task force in the Ministry of Commerce to coordinate action relating to setting up of Common Effluent Treatment Plants (CETP) for tanneries. The task force in its first meeting held on 15.10.1996 considered the issues pertaining to removal of ceiling on central subsidy on setting up of CEPTs; providing bridge loan facility by financial institutions; providing technical consultancy by Central Leather Research Institute (CLRI) and National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) for prevention of pollution from tanneries; review of pollution discharge norms; import duty concession on certain special chemicals and equipments for treatment of tannery effluents etc.

The Government have approved 61 proposals regarding Common Effluent Treatment Plants in 12 States for clusters of small scale industrial units including the tanneries.

(c) and (d) The scheme of Common Effluent Treatment Plant is applicable to all small and medium scale industries including leather industry.

(e) and (f) The Common Effluent Treatment Plants including those in Maharashtra and Gujarat are at various stages of implementation. Performance evaluation studies are included in the CETP scheme.

Supreme Court's Judgement on Violation of Environmental Norms

2304. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: SHRI SOLIPETA RAMACHANDRA REDDY:

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the crux of the Supreme Court judgment against violation of environmental norms for important power projects like Cogentrix; and

(b) the assessment made by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAIN PRASAD NISHAD): (a) and (b) The Cogentrix project in Karnataka had been accorded Environmental Clearance in June, 1996 subject to implementation of environmental safeguard measures. The Supreme Court has directed that 5 developmental projects including Cogentrix project in Karnataka be studied and assessed by experts from the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute (NEERI) who should submit their recommendations to the states concerned. Copies of the Assessment Report of NEERI have to be filed in the Supreme Court also.

Methodology for Determining Posts of PGT (Commerce) in Kendriya Vidyalayas

2305. SHRI PARAG CHALIHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 274 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd November, 1996 and state:

(a) the details of methodology of determining number of posts of PGTs (Commerce) in Kendriya Vidyalayas; and